Contrast in musical styles by youth orchestra

by Peter Palmer

A CONTRAST in musical styles was provided by the Notts. County Youth Orchestra in their Albert Hall concert last night.

After the overture to Prince Igor, by the Russian Composers' Union, Linda Rhodes and Julian Shaw were the soloists in Bach's D minor concerto for two violins.

Taking the lead in turn as they traced their parallel paths, they attained a good measure of feeling, most notably in the largo.

The other strings seemed barely adequate, possibly because of the distance between them.

Atmosphere

The full orchestra created a splendid sense of atmosphere in Stravinsky's ballet suite "The Bird of Fire," and the syncopated dance was full of wizardry.

Sebelius's Second Symphony has been described as provincial, but that says a lot for the provinces. Bassoons and flutes were at their best in the scherzo, with the solo oboe securer the second time round.

Massive waves of sound carried the symphony to an exultant conclusion.

Muir Mathieson — unstinting as ever — wielded the baton.

Walkout by foundry men

Twenty foundry loaders at the Clay Cross Company at Clay Cross, Derbyshire, walked out yesterday over a pay dispute.

The men, members of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, want a weekly wage of £30, a rise of about ten per cent. The company manufacturers cast iron pipes with a labour force of 800.

Mr. John Jackson, the managing director, said yesterday the situation was "delicate."

Closure angers union official

The entire work force — 40 workers and seven members of staff — at a Nottingham sheet metal firm have been told the factory is to close on May 26.

The redundancies at Eros Wings, of Willow Road, Lenton, has angered the local branch secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union Mr. Harold Hickling, who criticised the short notice and lack of consultation.

Bow Group chief

Marketing manager Mr. Peter Lloyd (34) has been elected chairman of the Conservative Bow Group. Mr. Lloyd is prospective Parliamentary candidate for West Nottingham and former chairman of Cambridge University Conservative Association.

Busy Samaritans

Twice as many calls have been made to the Leicester branch of the Samaritans organisation since the BBC started its television series "The Befrienders," based on their work, last month, a Samaritans spokesman said yesterday. He said the number of volunteers had also increased.

Dog catcher wanted

The urban council at Wigston near Leicester is being asked to employ a dog catcher. The request has been made by the Wigston and District Canine Society which claims that the town has the highest proportion of stray dogs in the county.

Weather

For 24 hours from 6 a.m.

General situation — Pressure will remain high to the south-west and low to the north-east of the United Kingdom, and a weak trough of low pressure is expected to approach north western areas later.

Nottingham and District: After clearance of early morning mist patches and ground frost, it will be dry and fairly sunny. Maximum temperature 14C (57F). Winds, light or moderate, north-westerly.

Lincolnshire coast: Sunny intervals, but a chance of showers in the afternoon or evening. Winds becoming fresh, north-erly.

Further outlook: Mainly dry and sunny intervals. Rather warm.

Lighting-up times

Today: 8.32 p.m. — 5.38 a.m.
Tomorrow: 8.34 p.m. — 5.36 a.m.

WORLD WEATHER
World weather conditions during the past 24 hours.

		C	F
Paris	cloudy	14	58
London	drizzle	15	59
Berlin	sunny	17	63
Amsterdam	overcast	12	54
Brussels	clear	14	58
Madrid	sunny	21	70
Moscow	overcast	14	58
Stockholm	fair	10	50
New York	cloudy	10	50
San Francisco	clear	13	55
Los Angeles	cloudy	19	67
Chicago	clear	22	72
Miami	clear	27	80
Tokyo	clear	18	65
Hongkong	cloudy	25	77
Buenos Aires	clear	26	79
Montreal	rain	4	40
Honolulu	clear	27	80
Toronto	cloudy	12	54
Rio de Janeiro	clear	32	90

'PHREAKING ROUND THE WORLD' COSTS STUDENT £400

AN OXFORD student was fined a total of £200 with £200 costs yesterday for making international telephone calls by the "phreaking" system.

Some of the calls were to Moscow, Melbourne, and Washington, the prosecution said.

Duncan Campbell, a physics student at Brasenose College, pleaded Guilty at Oxford magistrates Court to two charges of dishonestly using the telephone system with intent to avoid payment. He asked for five other offences to be considered.

Mr. Russell Harris, prosecuting for the Post Office, said Campbell was the first person in Britain to be prosecuted for using the device.

Mr. Harris said the "blue box" used for "phreaking" was an American invention. In this case the only difference was a dial on the box instead of buttons.

'Blue box'

The illegal system took over by using certain code sounds produced with the "blue box" simulator.

In the early part of February it became obvious that calls were being made from Oxford which were passing through irregular routes.

Post Office investigators plotted these and it was discovered they were being made from two telephones in St. John's College.

The calls, said Mr. Harris, were being made to various places, including Moscow, Melbourne, and Washington, Virginia and Los Angeles in the USA.

The two calls in the court charges concerned one to a "place of ill-repute on Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, and the other to a man called Vladimir in Moscow."

NARROW WIN FOR LABOUR IN MERTHYR BY-ELECTION

LABOUR'S narrow win in the Merthyr Tydfil by-election early yesterday seems to prove that current Government difficulties — especially on the industrial front — have not resulted in an avalanche of support for the Opposition.

Mr. Ted Rowlands, with a 3,710 majority over Welsh Nationalist Mr. Emrys Roberts, may also be conjecturing today on the damage to his cause by recent Labour turmoil over the Common Market and the burst of Jenkinsite resignations. Independent Labour's majority, in the General Election was 7,467.

And with a high 78.5 per cent poll, the former Junior Minister in Mr. Wilson's Government would have been expected to do better than be returned with Labour's lowest majority for the constituency.

It was always known that Plaid Cymru would score heavily at Merthyr. How much their success was due to a resurgence of Welsh fervour and how much to the Labour Party "split" sensation will form the basis of a searching inquest.

The by-election resulted from the death six weeks ago of Mr. S. O. Davies (86). Results:

T. Rowlands (Lab.) 15,562; E. Roberts (Plaid Cymru) 11,852; C. Barr (C) 2,366; A. L. Jones (Comm.) 1,519; A. Donaldson (L) 765. Labour majority 3,710.

GIFTS — AND WARM FAREWELL

Gifts galore . . . handed over by Mr Dunnett (centre) at the presentation to Ald. and Mrs. Green.

The gifts included an electric blanket, an eiderdown, bottles of spirits, cigarettes — and a bouquet for Mrs. Green.

Ald. Green was Sheriff of Nottingham in 1956-7, and Lord Mayor in 1960-1.

'Other woman' walks off with £11,000

A YOUNG Swedish woman — named in a divorce suit — apparently walked out of the Law Courts in the Strand yesterday with £11,000 in her handbag, a High Court Family Division judge was told by counsel.

Twenty minutes earlier the judge had ordered that the money, brought to court by her lover, a professional gambler, should be paid into court to cover a claim by his wife and child.

The judge ordered a bench warrant to be issued for the arrest of Miss Birgitta Forsberg. She is tall, has long fair hair and is in her late twenties.

She had been attending court with Mr. John Burke, with whom she was said to be living at Wilton Crescent, Belgravia, London.

The judge said Miss Forsberg was to be brought before him on Monday and he also ordered that she should be prohibited from dealing with the money.

When Mr. Donald Ellison, counsel for the wife, Mrs. Liliane Burke, of Aldford Street, Mayfair, London, said it was feared Miss Forsberg — named by the wife in her divorce suit — would go to Sweden, the judge said that the appropriate authorities could be informed.

The money had been brought to court to answer an application by Mrs. Burke for the committal to prison of her husband for failure to comply with a court order made last week.

On that occasion £13,000 in Mr. Burke's bank account was "frozen" when the court was told that he had sold his shares in the Claremont Club, Mayfair — recently bought out by the Playboy Club.

Yesterday Mr. Ellison said that the money was to have been put into a joint account set up by solicitors on both sides.

For Mr. Burke Mr. Neil Taylor said he was prepared to hand over £11,000 and to give a cheque for £2,305 and Mr. Justice Rees ordered this to be done by 4 p.m. yesterday — the solicitors to open a joint account on Monday.

Counted

Later the court sat again and Mr Taylor told the judge that the cheque was now handed over but payment of the £11,000 could not be complied with.

Mr. Burke had gone to a conference room and with Miss Forsberg and a solicitor had counted the £11,000 in notes.

Miss Forsberg, Mr. Burke had said, packed it in her handbag and put her scarf on top. He had not known she was going to leave with it and it was not his idea.

The judge said the High Court Tipstaff should arrest Miss Forsberg and bring her to court on Monday and she would also be directed not to dispose of any of the £11,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Burke — he is 48 and she is 39 — married in 1961 and the wife obtained a decree nisi last month.

Bond winners

More winning premium bond numbers for £50 prizes in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, and Rutland in the April draw were announced yesterday. They are:

AS 775375	5EZ 192093	6KK 090078	8PK 967241	7ST 070518	9WW 596248
3AL 402933	FB 022757	6KS 984935	8PP 919941	1TL 844167	9WZ 914178
5AK 375959	FB 472641	7KL 338166	QL 603481	1TS 059836	3XP 256922
5AL 787370	FF 223862	LS 389119	1QL 594239	2TB 790445	3XZ 698543
5AZ 143781	1FB 491067	LZ 135702	1QP 139744	4TK 551160	3XZ 905850
5AZ 956014	1FK 638801	2LL 696555	2QK 512147	4TL 024328	5XK 493735
BT 479280	1FL 564686	3LN 993438	3QL 205893	5TB 059352	5XL 234897
1BF 173000	1FN 724614	4LB 581480	4QB 994479	5TP 685124	6XT 859442
1BP 125959	1FZ 842930	4LP 725095	5QF 537741	5VW 270849	7XK 574035
1BT 163551	3FL 008640	4LP 851483	5QP 638794	5VZ 137288	7XK 749026
2BN 974342	3FS 708412	5LL 464331	5QS 668758	6VF 295076	8XF 096678
2BS 474910	4FZ 004267	5LN 035345	5QT 728188	6VP 806030	YP 628383
3BZ 970503	2HF 887709	6LT 540523	5QT 811314	8VT 166976	YW 742946
CT 723359	3HP 833055	MB 111189	RK 585788	8VW 926172	4YW 945695
1CF 280563	3HW 407924	1MT 590014	4RW 824848	9VF 657672	5YB 652805
2DT 553474	4HF 214254	4MF 147214	5RN 756375	9VF 945379	8YK 244090
2DT 693553	4HL 498041	4MF 486222	5RT 056457	9VK 475881	8YN 157982
3DF 307920	4HZ 950387	NS 560218	5RZ 801077	9VL 078441	1ZB 820460
3DK 409317	1JF 887413	1NK 572999	6RB 774711	9VP 596184	4ZL 848636
3DK 817158	1JS 976843	PW 066529	7RN 127464	1WL 553387	4ZL 893375
3DN 314152	3JF 438401	1PZ 230281	7RP 344275	2WB 110318	6ZL 560603
3DN 441173	3JS 717166	3PT 877956	8RB 901698	2WF 935733	6ZS 267790
3DS 219110	3JW 440699	2PZ 568621	9RF 931122	2WZ 132632	6ZW 105746
3DS 897189	4JK 235503	2PZ 925240	ST 669571	6WS 101570	7ZW 226539
4DZ 918642	5JW 923091	3PP 791724	1SW 566035	8WB 859631	8ZF 094520
5DW 535264	5JZ 034961	6PW 446607	2SZ 744195	8WF 095106	8ZW 647305
1EL 604964	1KS 865283	6PZ 438137	3SF 132135	8WF 388584	9ZB 849649
1EW 494950	1KT 864519	7PL 512208	4SZ 296776	8WW 008023	9ZK 953875
2EZ 884652	2KN 568082	7PP 939928	5SS 785086	9WB 329420	9ZZ 856726
4EZ 355252	4KK 782351	7PS 577333	6SB 722433	9WP 427552	
5ET 742997	5KZ 797649	8PK 468998	7SB 749801	9WS 985265	

Staffordshire and Derbyshire

AK 866445	5ES 280667	4KS 582164	3PL 025587	7RZ 106300	4WT 298195
AK 899646	5ES 801629	5KB 183617	3PZ 492955	8RB 499430	5WK 291513
1AB 569952	5EZ 577559	6KB 452577	4PF 740645	8RZ 046527	6WB 614313
1AF 401907	2FF 003146	6KW 774313	4PN 141515	SN 584458	7WT 837047
1AW 153128	3FB 234381	7KL 952936	6PP 823825	SP 456867	8WN 054336
3AL 362597	3FL 029935	LT 703677	7PZ 096415	ST 978431	8WS 153267
3AW 834144	3FP 854639	1LT 224666	8PP 545242	SZ 326245	XZ 221213
4AN 758245	3FT 849942	2LB 080725	8PS 569029	1ST 944141	3XT 522278
5AB 335521	4FB 862219	2LF 286563	8PZ 804891	5SP 994405	4XB 595776
BZ 798344	1HW 230158	2LF 520738	9PB 905739	5ST 734116	5XT 226408
1BF 582347	2HP 182795	2LL 201594	QP 566311	6SB 847630	7XL 076464
1BS 010869	2HT 461259	3LL 659757	QT 414898	6ST 537813	7XN 820291
1BS 205166	4HS 978192	3LS 249230	QW 409465	7SK 933559	7XW 588160
1BW 985522	4HZ 372201	5LK 177355	1QT 246510	7SP 535844	YB 441380
2BW 396263	5HF 746118	5LK 450139	2QF 466675	1TP 260686	2YB 314403
3BK 931238	5HN 909295	6LF 269474	2QL 063105	2VK 829666	2YB 411770
CK 708074	5HZ 271232	6LK 620592	2QT 056692	2VL 321259	6YW 420405
1CT 411529	1JP 270289	6LP 078237	3QS 990049	2VN 534187	7YB 703021
1CW 590261	1JW 249030	6LW 063917	4QT 144661	3VB 824555	7YT 869611
1CZ 266261	3JB 538280	7LB 043689	4QW 868179	5VZ 082528	7YZ 447010
2CB 178586	3JB 710255	MT 696407	5QK 401049	6VK 503850	8YF 328017
2CB 384898	3JS 293789	1MK 962205	5QP 521165	6VW 905780	8YS 119620
2CF 006784	4JF 475083	1ML 202271	RN 245226	7VS 919703	ZB 387497
2CK 550794	4JF 478740	2MZ 429417	1RP 287351	8VB 225735	2ZS 160621
3DK 636103	4JP 680282	3MN 589902	1RP 886997	8VN 407666	6ZL 255956
3DP 087630	KB 109360	4MW 480150	1RS 350579	8VS 546821	6ZT 240994
5DL 075522	KL 741364	1NN 322379	5RF 386915	9VF 153012	9ZF 661155
1ES 068931	1KL 349083	PB 045849	6RK 321634	9VL 081677	6ZZ 854486
2ET 190339	2KL 890783	2PK 658901	6RP 662705	3WL 050251	8ZP 982837
3EL 788952	3KK 144458	3PF 097985	7RN 433873	3WL 092727	

A unique team is toasted in style

HUSBAND and wife team Ald. Roland and Mrs. Ethel Green were the toast of The Meadows, Nottingham, last night at a party to mark their 46 years with the Bridge Ward Labour Party.

It was a warm farewell to the couple who have now left The Meadows to live at Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire.

Their gifts from the Ward Party were presented to them by Mr. Jack Dunnett, Labour MP for Central Nottingham, at the Sir Richard Arkwright, Arkwright Street.

Mr. Dunnett spoke of the long and devoted service of the couple, both to the ward and to the party.

The presentation highlighted a partnership which is probably the longest in political and trade union affairs in the city.

Former clerks

They first met at a union function in 1926 when they were both employed as railway booking clerks and were both members of the Railway Clerks' Association.

Ald. Green belongs to the third generation of railwaymen in his family. Both his father and grandfather were station-masters.

From clerk with the old Great Northern, Ald. Green became commercial representative of No. 1 Area, Nottingham.

Throughout this time he was associated with his railway union, being chairman of the Nottingham branch and secretary of the East Midlands Divisional Council.

On retirement, Ald. Green was presented with the gold medallion of the union and was made an honorary life member.

Became agent

First elected to the city council for the former Meadows Ward in 1945, he also became election agent for the late Mr. Norman Smith, Labour MP for Nottingham South until 1955.

Ald. Green is keenly interested in education and a Nottingham school is named after him. He has been chairman or vice-chairman of the Education Committee for a number of years.

Mrs. Green has also played a keen role in municipal affairs. She has been an active member of the Labour Party for the past 50 years and represented Bridge Ward on the city council from September, 1952, until she was elected an alderman in 1963.

When the Conservatives took control four years later, Mrs. Green lost her aldermanic seat but was soon elected as Nottingham's first woman honorary alderman.

She is a former treasurer of the Bridge Ward party.

Pledge on eyesores

Heanor will be transformed in the next few years as the urban council clears eyesores from the area, the council chairman, Mr. Stan Mellors, said last night.

He said at the chairman's annual reception that at the beginning of his year of office he had pledged himself to environmental improvement.

"The council supported me on this. With the plans we have laid and the machinery we have established I am confident we will see the removal of many eyesores."

Mr. Raymond Fletcher, MP for Ilkeston, was among the 100 guests at the reception.

Raleigh chef retires

Raleigh Industries canteen chef Mr. Frank Bowmer (65) who retired yesterday after 22 years with the firm, was presented with a gold ring during a buffet dance last night in the firm's ballroom organised in his honour by canteen staff.

Underpasses one way out of impasse

SHERIFF'S WAY and the Eastern by-pass, the proposed roads turned down by the Department of the Environment, could still be built in Nottingham.

Corporation officials, who sought alternative solutions after the department's rejection of the original plans, have reported that the roads could go underground for some stretches.

The officials' report on the possible alternatives was deferred by the Nottingham Planning and Development Committee yesterday, and the new committee, formed after the May elections, will have to make the decisions.

Opposed

Several Labour members are known to be opposed to any moves to reintroduce the two roads in development plans.

The officials started out with the premise that any new routes should not be the rejected ones under another name, but they had to think again.

To improve the roads so that noise and nuisance would be kept to a minimum would cost £40,000,000 compared with £31,000,000 in the original proposals.

The report says any new major roads in the eastern part of the city would have 86 per cent of its traffic making for Nottingham, with only a small proportion of through or non-city traffic.

Noise

Mr. Brian Collins, the city's Director of Technical Services, described how homes might be affected by noise with the proposed new roads.

No home in St. Ann's would be affected in the future as 30 new houses are troubled by traffic at present on Woodborough Road, he said.

Most of the existing houses in Sneinton in the vicinity of the main road are already more affected by noise than would be some of the homes on the route of the proposed Eastern by-pass.

The possibility of constructing a tunnel road between London Road and Mansfield Road, north of Forest Road, was considered.

It was rejected, one of the reasons being that the cost could be more than £60,000,000.

Impossible

Another suggestion was for a new road from Shelton Street to Sneinton. This could link up with London Road to the new road at the Carlton Road junction, but it would be almost impossible to construct underground.

If it was built on the surface, it would seriously impede pedestrians, public transport and would reduce the capacity of the eastern section of the inner ring road.

To provide a link from Meadows Way along London Road, and then connecting up to Carlton Road junction could cost up to £6,000,000.

The Planning Committee also deferred consideration of a proposal to develop the Victoria Hotel site from Castle Point Properties.

Cooper painting gains top price

An oil painting by Thomas Sidney Cooper of a farmyard scene, signed and dated 1881, fetched the top price of £680 at a sale of 18th and 19th Century paintings, watercolours, drawings, prints and engravings by the Retford auctioneers, Henry Spencer and Sons, yesterday.

Other big prices at the sale, which realised a total of £7,215 included a panoramic wood river landscape by Niemann (£350); a mountainous river landscape by the Dutch school (£280); a landscape by D. Y. Cameron £280; and the interior of a Moorish palace by Albert Girard (£250).

Fishy story

Derbyshire police were yesterday trying to sniff out thieves who made off with 240lb. of wet fish from outside a fish and chip shop. The fish, haddock, cod and herring worth £43, was taken from outside the shop in High Street, Clay Cross, shortly after arriving by lorry from the docks.

A brief look...

A Strad for £10?

A second-hand dealer has put a £10 violin in a bank vault for safe keeping. He did this yesterday after he looked inside the violin and saw a label which reads "Antonius Stradivarius. Faciebat Anno 1705."

In June last year a Stradivarius was sold for £84,000.

Mr. Peter Meade, at his shop in the Sawclose, Bath, said: "This is the first violin I have ever bought. I don't know anything about them." He is having the violin valued.

★ ★ ★ ★

Guns fired a royal salute from the ramparts of the castle in honour of Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard when they arrived in Edinburgh yesterday at the start of a two-day visit.

★ ★ ★ ★

Finnish-born Paavo Berglund (42), artistic director of the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra for the past 10 years, has been appointed principal conductor of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra from September.

★ ★ ★ ★

Dr. Donald Coggan, Archbishop of York, left Lahore yesterday for Karachi on his way to Nairobi for a week's visit to Kenya.

★ ★ ★ ★

Gordon Naysmith, a 40-year-old Briton who is pony-trekking from Lesotho, in Southern Africa, to the Munich Olympic Games, has reached the South Jordanian town of Ma'an.

★ ★ ★ ★

The Thai Government has offered a reward of £365 for the capture "dead or alive" of a 19-year-old former beauty queen who is now a Communist guerrilla leader.

★ ★ ★ ★

Mr. Harold Wilson will appear on BBC's Panorama on Monday.

Cancer-fight ball

Nottingham Joint Cancer Committee's annual spring ball, which in the last five years has raised £2,500, was held last night at the Albany Hotel. Proceeds from the event, attended by 200 guests, will be shared between the Cancer Research Campaign and the National Society for Cancer Relief.

HALT THE GROWTH OF THESE INDUSTRIAL GIANTS —CALL

EFFECTIVE action should be taken by the Government to stop the formation of any more industrial monopolies or near-monopolies.

The demand is made in the comment column of Industrial Nottingham, the monthly journal of the Nottingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry issued yesterday.

The writer asks this question: Does the Government really appreciate the immense part small firms play in the well being of the country and the immense harm which is done all too often to people's lives by mergers and monopolies?

He urges that now is the time for the Government to take positive steps to reverse policies of the last two decades, and show that it will not allow takeovers, whether by firms or trade unions, to dominate the economy.

And he adds: "The effect of allowing such domination can only be to bring about a loss of personal identity, human content and sense of purpose.

Impersonal

"People, and it is people who matter, are being demoralised and destroyed by the so-called rationalisation which follows in the wake of the birth of industrial giants.

"Nobody gains, except the tiny few sitting on the top of pinnacles. Society certainly does not.

"All too often the aggrandisement of the few is achieved by the debasement of the many who lose almost everything as a result of the formation of huge, impersonal and often relatively inefficient units."

The writer calls on the Government to show that its all too recent concern for small firms is genuine.

"Let it take effective action to establish and assist them. And, as a corollary, let it now prevent the formation of any more monopolies or near monopolies."

Crash kills race driver

Bert Hawthorne, a New Zealander living in England, died yesterday after an accident in training for the Jim Clarke memorial motor race at the Hockenheimring, Germany.

Hawthorne collided with West German driver Bernd Terbeck near the track's East Curve not far from where Jim Clarke was fatally injured on April 7, 1968. Terbeck managed to walk away from the crashed cars, while Hawthorne's vehicle caught fire. He was later freed by firemen.

Hit and run of 'worst sort'

A mishap in which a Scots Guardsman was killed was "a hit and run incident of the worst sort," Nottingham City Coroner Mr. A. C. G. Rothera told an inquest jury yesterday.

He said he hoped police inquiries to trace the vehicle and its driver would continue. A verdict of Accidental death was returned on David Hynd (18) of Victoria Barracks, Windsor.

The inquest was told that the mishap took place as the Guardsman hitch-hiked on the Sandiacre by-pass. The coroner said the accident could be a warning of the hazards of hitch-hiking.

Director, 44, dies

Mr. Derek Flude, managing director of the Hinckley hosiery manufacturing firm of H. Flude, has died at the age of 44. Mr. Flude, whose home was in Bradgate Road, Hinckley, leaves a widow and two children.

Battling tenants

The New Parks Tenants Association in Leicester was officially formed yesterday. It is the second tenants' association formed in the city in a week, to fight the Government's Fair Rents Bill.

Jobless figure is 'criminal' says union chief

THE current number of registered unemployed — more than a million—seems criminal, says Mr. H. L. Gibson, general secretary of the Leicester-based National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers.

Writing about the "chronic ill facing the nation," in the union's magazine, Mr. Gibson said it should be remembered that many thousands of married women were not included in the statistical number because they did not pay full insurance contributions.

There were also a great number of workers on short time at present and they too were not registered at the employment exchanges.

"It seems ludicrous that in the 20th century the Government does not seem to have the know-how or the economic expertise to reduce this ghastly figure and by such a reduction increase the gross national product of the nation, thereby raising the standard of living of the people of this island from the level we are experiencing at the present moment," he says.

Excuses

He goes on: "Excuses do not make jobs and the prime concern of any government is to ensure that the population of that country is able to live a decent, wholesome, dignified life by having the opportunity, nay, the right, to be employed and contribute to the wealth and prosperity of the nation.

"If the Government spent more time on matters of this nature instead of arguing about Industrial Relations Acts the nation would be in a far healthier economic situation than we are experiencing at the present moment.

"So we can say, away with these doctrinaire philosophies and understand your prime function — that is to provide work for all who are able to work and to provide succour for those people who are unfortunate enough to be that underprivileged class and, therefore not able to utilise their talents in this way."

Houses boom 'cannot last'

The "unhealthy and frantic" house situation cannot last very much longer, Mr. Michael Latham, director of the House Builders' Federation, said in Bristol yesterday. "We would hope to see a more stable and satisfactory situation by the autumn," he told a seminar on urban renewal.

He said: "Eighteen months ago, the problems in the house building field were those of depression, lack of money and lack of trade. The difficulties today arise from an unprecedented demand, boundless confidence, plentiful money and the shortage of land. They should diminish as more land becomes available for development. But let nobody doubt which set of problems is to be preferred. Expensive homes are better than no homes."